

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /068 W

----- 026459

R 311228Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 786

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDON DERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 231

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: IRA CEASEFIRE EXTENSION POSSIBLE

1. OFFICIALS NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE HELD THREE MEETINGS DEC. 30 IN WHICH IT BELIEVES WAYS DISCUSSED BY WHICH GOVERNMENT COULD ENCOURAGE PROLONGATION IREA CEASEFIRE BEYOND MIDNIGHT JAN 2: (A) SECSTATE REES MET WITH GOC KING AND CHIEF CONSTABLE ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY FLANAGAN, (B) REES MET LATER WITH PRESBYTERIAN MODERATOR, ROMAN CATHOLIC CARDINAL CONWAY, CHURCH OF IRELAND ARCHBISHOP, SECRETARY METHODIST CONFERENCE, AND (C) FEAKLE TALKS PARTICIPANT STANLEY WORRAL MET WITH REES PRIVATE SECRETARY SIR FRANK COOPER. IT RUMORED ALSO IN LOYALIST CIRCLES THAT COOPER AND FCO REPRESENTATIVE ALLEN JAMES MET DIRECTLY WITH PROVISIONALS IN SOUTH ARMAGH LAST WEEKEND.

2. MEETINGS COINCIDED WITH RENEWAL ANTI-INTERMENT CAMPAIGN PART REPUBLICAN INTERNEES LONG KESH AND ASSOCIATION FOR LEGAL JUSTICE. THIS FORTIFIES SPECULATION THAT GOVERNMENT GESTURE ACCEPTABLE TO PROVOS WOULD BE UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE NUMBER INTERNEES. SOME POLITICAL LEADERS APPREHENSIVE THAT GRASS ROOTS LONGING FOR PEACE AS CONVED BY RELIGIOUS LEADERS WILL PRESSURE

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SECSTATE REES INTO UNWISE CONCESSIONS TO IRA. OTHERS, NOTABLY

LOYALISTS, SUSPICIOUS THAT GOVERNMENT WILL SEEK PEACE AT PRICE TO BE PAID EVENTUALLY BY MAJORITY COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND. SECSTATE REES HAS REFUSED BE PUBLICLY DRAWN MUCH BEYOND CONSISTENT STATEMENTS TO EFFECT PROLONGED CESSATION HOSTILITIES WOULD BRING ABOUT NEW SITUATION TO WHICH GOVERNMENT WOULD RESPOND. HOWEVER, CARDINAL CONWAY IN PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER MEETING DEC. 30 SAID THAT SECSTATE HAD INDICATED THERE WOULD BE A RESPONSE TO CEASEFIRE. IN ENVIRONMENT OF CONCILIATION IT POSSIBLE PROVISIONAL IRA WILL UNILATERALLY EXTEND CEASEFIRE.

3. ONE PROTESTANT YOUTH KILLED BY ONE OF FOUR ARMED MEN DEC. 30 IN WHAT APPEARS BE MURDER CONNECTED WITH SEIZURE SHOTGUN WITH WHICH VICTIM HUNTING. ALTHOUGH ARMY CONTINUING SPOT CHECK VEHICLES IN ORDER PREVENT PROVISIONAL IRA MOVING ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES IT INTERESTING THERE NO REPORT DISCOVERY ANY SUCH MOVEMENTS.  
SPICER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 DEC 1974  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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